#### **PRESS RELEASE**

**EVENT**:

Exhibit of painting

**ARTIST / TITLE:** 

Giancarlo Montuschi – 40 Years of Pop Art

**EXHIBIT DATES:** 

Sunday, October 5 – Sunday, November 2, 2014

LOCATION:

Via Cavour 85 - 52100 Arezzo (AR), Italia

**INAUGURATION:** 

Sunday, October 5 at 6pm with the presence of the artist presentation curated by Alberto D'Atanasio

**SPECIAL EVENT:** 

Saturday, October 18 at 6PM

**CATALOGUE**:

created by Petra Montuschi

visible on our website at www.VillicanaDAnnibale.com/books

**INFO**:

FREE ENTRANCE

Hours: Sunday, October 5 from 6:00-8:00PM, Tuesday - Friday from 4PM-8PM & Saturday, November

1st and Sunday, November 2nd from 11:00AM-10:00PM

Web: www.VillicanaDAnnibale.com

**ORGANIZATION:** 

Artist, Curator & Educator - Danielle Villicana D'Annibale

Cell: +39 338 600 5593 Email: danielle@villicanadannibale.com

Light Designer & Installation - Maurizio D'Annibale

**SPONSOR:** 

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#### PRESS RELEASE

#### **40 Years of Pop Art**

### The paintings of Giancarlo Montuschi in Arezzo from October 5 to November 4, 2014

At **Via Cavour 85** in Arezzo, on Sunday, October 5, 2014 at 6pm, will inaugurate the solo exhibition of painting entitled *40 Years of Pop Art* of **Giancarlo Montuschi**, Italian artist from Faenza.

The exposition, curated by **Danielle Villicana D'Annibale**, presented by art critic **Alberto D'Atanasio**, will host approximately ten works, including a group of original and unreleased paintings, as well as a group of paintings from the beginning of the artist's career from the 70's, all exhibited for the first time in the city of Arezzo in Tuscany. The installation will include a noteworthy selection of works, colorful and full of vitality, inspired by the pop culture, and product of a fervent imagination of an artist by now considered an "adoptive" Tuscan.

The exhibit will proceed, at free entrance, until Sunday, November 2, 2014, with the following hours: Sunday, October 5 from 6pm to 8pm, Tuesday to Saturday, from 4am to 8pm and Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11am to 8pm for the Fiera Antiquaria.

Collateral events to the exhibit include, Saturday, November 18 at 6pm, by appointment, interview of Giancarlo Montuschi curated by **Lucrezia Lombardo**. A catalogue will accompany the exhibit, created by **Petra Montuschi**, and will include a presentation by the curator and an essay by the art critic.

**Via Cavour 85** with great pleasure presents **Giancarlo Montuschi**, Italian artist from the city of Faenza, in a solo exhibition of painting entitled *40 Years of Pop Art*, his third personal exhibit in Arezzo in recent years. In perfect synchrony with the harvest, during such a glorious moment, nothing could be more suitable than the juicy and delicious painting of Montuschi. A precious and curious work, dated 1974, introduces the theme of the exhibit "*pop.*" A savory mature fig that is literally exploding, ready to be eaten, is opened by two beautiful hands of a classy woman, of whom we see only the well groomed hands, with fingernails painted Ferrari red. This style of painting and "*pop*" expression becomes the mantra and the base for a pictorial search that Montuschi has concentrated on for the past forty years. As **Claudio Spadoni** wrote in 1976, the current Director of the "MAR," the Museum of Art of the City of Ravenna and Artistic Director of the ArteFiera of Bologna: Montuschi creates, "*A pop that makes research*." Another exceptional painting of the same period, from the Futurist pop series "Photo Finish" of a horse race, represents a group of horses in a determined race for none other than victory. A total of four works of the first *Montuschian* production, will be on exhibit as a clear example of the evident emerging talent of the young artist.

To complement the works of his artistic debut, at a distance of forty years, will be present a group of recent works, including a large work entitled "*Divers*," a delight for the spectator. After the creation of this work, a mysterious international meeting occurred in the "*Blue Planet*." It is not certain if the "*Planet*" of Montuschi expanded so large that it touched the American continent or if the beloved American characters close to Montuschi's heart chose to take a trip in the province of Arezzo to the studio of the Master, but what is certain is that this year, a "*planetary*" exchange and important encounter has been celebrated.

Reflecting on the painting of **Giancarlo Montuschi**, that of a year ago, a rainbow immediately appears, dynamic and amusing, as if it were a magic slide that cordially invites you to play with him in an animated blue world, full of color, goodness and joy. Orderly and well-trimmed are the gardens, a reality full of breath, of fresh air, art and culture, music, liberty, optimism, happiness, as well as a pinch of irony and everything that is necessary for a prosperous and cheerful life. Often, we find stars with four points, extraordinary palms that stretch out toward the sky, pink flowers, red arrows, dynamic clouds, as if they were sculptures in the sky, perfectly round violet hills, a world full of kisses and love, big hearts, fishes that jump with joy, chessboards and musical instrument with which to play, and more colors than one could imagine might exist. All of these things, underline the present potential wealth in which we live and the hope for a better world with ample respect for all, blessed days for all, and also lives rich in emotions, scents, feelings and above all the love, good food and music for *all*.

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With the new series of acrylic paintings, Master Montuschi has transported bits of the glorious American history of animation and the world of the comics into his pictorial language. V.I.P.s of the world of Walt Disney and Captain Marvel (DC Comics) decide to visit. Montuschi expresses an evident passion and love for the great draftsmen of comics of the past, and one of the greatest modern creators of all times, Walt Disney (Disney began his career in 1923 with the short film *Alice's Wonderland*). Approximately ninety years later, Montuschi pays him homage and introduces Alice to the characters of his beloved world, "*The Blue Planet*." Planetary Flash Gordon inspired visions, aliens and spatial ships may be seen in the paintings. At Via Cavour 85 you will see Thelma "Della" Duck, John Lennon and the four Beatles, Tarzan, Superman, Mandrake, astronauts, dear Pinocchio, Snow White and the seven dwarves and Alice in the Wonderland. This frontal collision with the world of Disney and Comics, creates a new and original *pop* expression by Giancarlo Montuschi. As the saying goes, "*Great minds think alike*."

Prominent exponent of the twentieth and twenty-first century of Italian painters, recently Montuschi has been included in a new selection of some of the most important contemporary Italian artists, in the new Museum of International Contemporary art of in Biella, a project curated by artist **Omar Ronda** (who in 1967, together with Gian Enzo Sperone and Lucio Amelio, organized a series of great exhibits) and by the art critic **Philippe Daverio**. Montuschi works steadily with many Italian galleries as well as with an American gallery in Chicago. It is an enormous honor to introduce **Giancarlo Montuschi** for this special celebration of 40 years of pop art Montuschi style.

As **Alberto D'Atanasio** describes with precision in the catalog, "The Art making of Giancarlo Montuschi is talent, rare ability to narrate himself and to narrate, courage to measure himself in direct and new way with a voiceless and increasingly atonic world."

#### **Brief biography:**

**Giancarlo Montuschi**, artist from Faenza, transplanted for quite some time in the lower part of Tuscany, is the anti personality of excellence.

Painter and ceramicist-sculptor of merit, he expresses himself with a naïve language, fairy-like, and fundamentally fantastic, with alchemico-esoteric veins.

The fact to have been born (in 1952) in Faenza, land of excellence for ceramics, and to have "breathed" in the years of formation, the reinvigorating fermentation produced by the influence of Pop Art on the young artists of that epoch, has underlined, in Montuschi, the two complementary, and formally diverse, expressive lines.

He participated in numerous exhibits during the eighties: in Faenza, Florence, Arezzo, Verona, Bologna, Bergamo, Turin, Bassano, in Sweden and Zagabria.

In the following decade, he began a collaboration with the Kens'Art in Florence, then came the exhibits "The Art of living" in New York and then the itinerant "Scarperentola" in Milan, London and New York; afterwards came the one man show at the museum of the ceramics in Saint Emillion (Bordeaux). He has participated also in different editions of art expos in Bari, Montichiari and Padua, at the ArteFiera in Bologna, at the EuropArt in Geneva, at the festival of Spoleto. Numerous have been the solo exhibits in Rome in the first years of 2000, then in Perugia, Florence (Immaginaria gallery), Prato, Milan, while the presence in the art fairs intensified: Vicenza Art, Expo in Bari and Genoa, International Fair of Art in Innsbruck, West Lake Expo in China. He was invited to the 51° Biennale in Venice, to the Latin American Pavillion. Many museums and Italian foundations preserve his works, including in November the new "MACIST" Museum of International Contemporary Art of Biella. Today he works steadily with many Italian galleries as well as with an American gallery in Chicago.

**For further information**, please contact **Danielle Villicana D'Annibale** at danielle@villicanadannibale.com, (+39) 338 600 5593 or visit our website <a href="www.VillicanaDAnnibale.com">www.VillicanaDAnnibale.com</a>.

**Please follow and share** with Danielle Villicana D'Annibale and Via Cavour 85 on Facebook (@viacavour85Arezzo), Twitter (@ViaCavour85AR), Pinterest (pinterest.com/daniellevillica), YouTube (youtube.com/user/villicanadannibale), Google+ (@Danielle Villicana D'Annibale) or by way of the hashtags #GiancarloMontuschi, #40YearsofPopArt, #ViaCavour85 e #DanielleVillicanaDAnnibale.

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Be a part of contemporary art with Via Cavour 85 in Arezzo!

The sponsor of the initiative is **Villa Margherita a Paradise for Artists in Tuscany**, a project created by Danielle Villicana D'Annibale, artist, curator and educator who believes strongly in the importance of promoting contemporary art. The Californian has a Bachelor of Arts in Art History and the Visual Arts from the United States, a diploma from the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome (Accademia di Belle Arti Roma) and obtains a Tefl diploma for Teaching English as a Second Language. At Villa Margherita, Danielle offers courses in *fresco*, *oil and acrylic painting*, *art* and *English*.

All are welcome to visit and discover our creative world, full of flowers and Tuscan colors, immersed in the nature of Alpe di Poti. Join the **Villa Margherita International Art Club**, membership is free! More information is available on our website <a href="www.VillicanaDAnnibale.com">www.VillicanaDAnnibale.com</a> or by calling Danielle directly at (+39) 338 600 5593.



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